THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) to (c) Government are aware of the reports and efforts by the militants to indulge in terrorist activities in the Rajouri and Poonch areas of Jammu and Kashmir. The reasons for such activities could be the increased pressure and operations along the LOC and elsewhere within the Valley by the Security forces and a deliberate desire on the part of the militants to create communal tensions in the area, taking advantage of the mixed population. Security Forces have not shown any slackness in the areas and steps are being taken to ensure that such activities and designs can be effectively contained.

Autonomy to J&K

1002. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since taken any decision to grant more autonomy to the State of Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to implement this decision; and

(c) what are the additional rights and powers Government propose to give to J&K Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Checking Free Movement of Kashmiri Militants

1003. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Jammu and Kashmir militants have now changed their strategy to make in-roads through Poonch and Rajauri districts which had remained relatively peaceful so far;

(b) whether Kashmiri ultras have also made the densely wooded borders between Himachal Pradesh and J & K a safe haven and recently kidnapped serveral persons from Himachal Pradesh crossing Chamba District to J & K, as reported in the Hindustan Times dated the 7th July, 1997; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken so far to counter-check free movement of Kashmiri Militants in the above mentioned areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) Government are aware of the reports and efforts by the militants to indulge in terrorist activities in the Rajouri and Poonch areas of Jammu and Kashmir.

(b) and (c) Reports have also been received about certain terrorist incidents taking place in the forest areas between Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh. The agencies concerned have been alerted to take appropriate action in this regard.

अमरनाथ त्रासदी के संबंध में डा॰ सेनगुप्ता समिति की रिपोर्ट

1004. **श्री राम जेठमलानी:** क्या प्रधान मंत्री 19 दिसम्बर, 1996 को राज्य सभा में तारांकित प्रश्न 418 के दिए गए उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) अमरनाथ यात्रियों के संबंध में तथा भावी अमरनाथ यात्रा को सुरक्षित रूप से संचालित करने हेतु किये गये प्रबंधों के संबंध में जांच अधिकारी डा॰ नितीश के॰ सेनगुप्त द्वारा क्या सुझाव दिये गये हैं;

(ख) क्या इस वर्ष अमरनाथ यात्रा के आरंभ होने से पहले इन सुझावों को अमल में लाया गया है; और